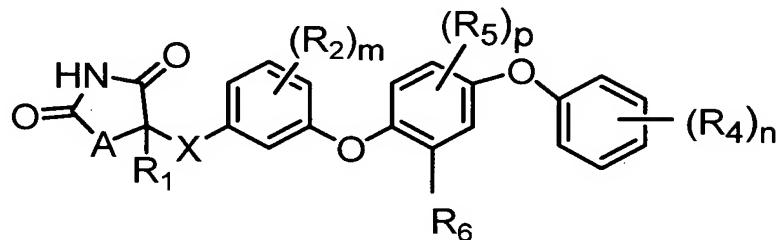


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original): A compound of formula I:



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

A is O or S;

X is a bond or CH<sub>2</sub>;

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl is optionally substituted with 1-3 F;

Each R<sup>2</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CH<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, -OCH<sub>3</sub>, and -OCF<sub>3</sub>;

Each R<sup>4</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, -OC(=O)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, and -S(O)<sub>q</sub>C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, -OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, -OC(=O)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, and -S(O)<sub>q</sub>C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl are optionally substituted with 1-3 F;

Each R<sup>5</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CH<sub>3</sub>, -OCH<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, and -OCF<sub>3</sub>;

R<sub>6</sub> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>Cyclopropyl, and -C(=O)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, wherein said R<sub>6</sub> substituent is optionally substituted with 1-3 F;

m is 0 or 1;

n is an integer from 1-3;

p is an integer from 0-2; and

q is an integer from 0-2.

2. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>.

3. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>.

4. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein A is O.

5. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein each R<sup>4</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CH<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, -OCH<sub>3</sub>, -OCF<sub>3</sub>, -OCHF<sub>2</sub>, -OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, -OC(=O)CH<sub>3</sub>, and -S(O)<sub>q</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, wherein q is 0, 1 or 2, and n is 1 or 2.

6. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X is a bond.

7. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X is CH<sub>2</sub>.

8. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is selected from the group consisting of n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>Cyclopropyl, and -C(=O)C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>.

9. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>.

10. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein p is 0 or 1.

11. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>;

Each R<sup>4</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, CH<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, -OCH<sub>3</sub>, -OCF<sub>3</sub>, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, -OC(=O)CH<sub>3</sub>, -OCHF<sub>2</sub>, and -S(O)<sub>q</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>,

R<sub>5</sub> is Cl or F;

R<sub>6</sub> is selected from the group consisting of n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>Cyclopropyl, and -C(=O)C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>;

m is 0;

n is 1 or 2;

p is 0 or 1; and

q is an integer from 0-2.

12. (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is O;

R<sup>1</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>;

Each R<sup>4</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of Cl, -OCH<sub>3</sub>, -OCF<sub>3</sub>, and -S(O)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>;

R<sub>5</sub> is F;

R<sub>6</sub> is n-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>;

m is 0;

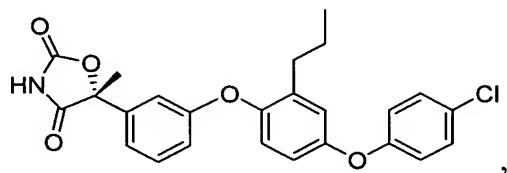
n is 1 or 2; and

p is 0 or 1.

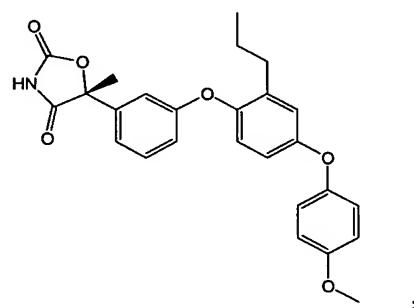
13. (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (original): A compound of Claim 1, selected from the compounds listed below, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

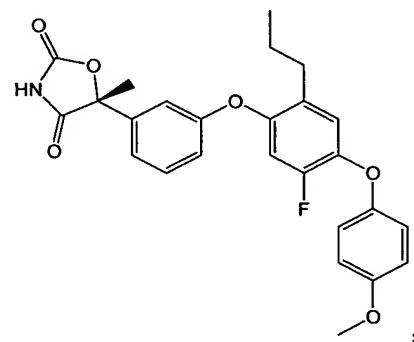
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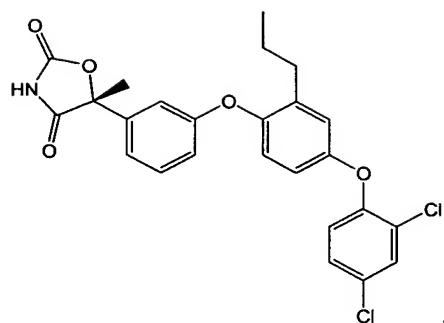
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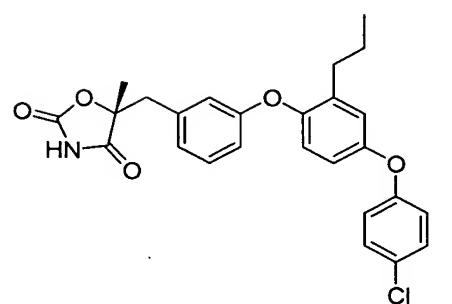
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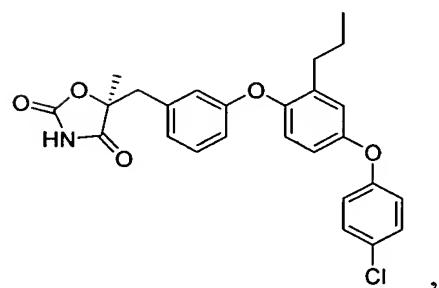
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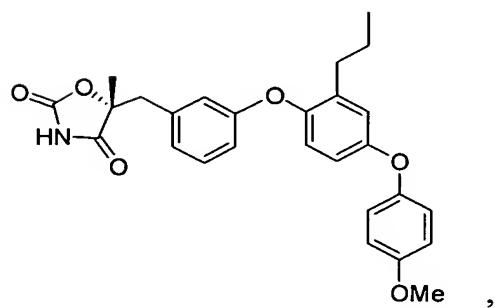
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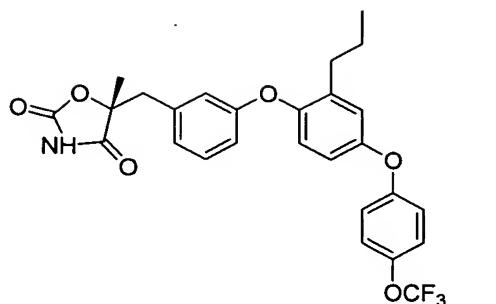
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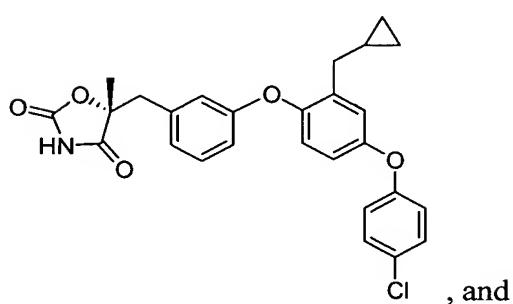
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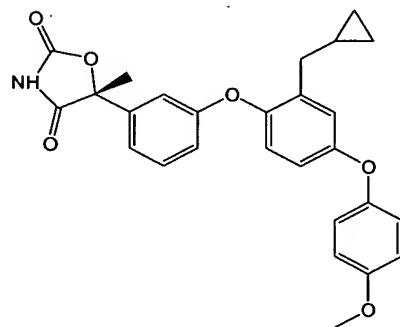
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15. (canceled)

16. (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising

(1) a compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
(2) one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of :

- (a) PPAR gamma agonists and partial agonists;
- (b) biguanides;
- (c) protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B (PTP-1B) inhibitors;
- (d) dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP-IV) inhibitors;
- (e) insulin or an insulin mimetic;
- (f) sulfonylureas;

(g)  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors;

(h) agents which improve a patient's lipid profile, said agents being selected from the group consisting of (i) HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, (ii) bile acid sequestrants, (iii) nicotinyl alcohol, nicotinic acid or a salt thereof, (iv) PPAR $\alpha$  agonists, (v) cholesterol absorption inhibitors, (h) acyl CoA:cholesterol acyltransferase (ACAT) inhibitors, (i) CETP inhibitors, and (j) phenolic anti-oxidants;

(i) PPAR $\alpha$ / $\gamma$  dual agonists,

(j) PPAR $\delta$  agonists,

(k) antiobesity compounds,

(l) ileal bile acid transporter inhibitors;

(m) anti-inflammatory agents;

(n) glucagon receptor antagonists;

(o) GLP-1;

(p) GIP-1; and

(q) GLP-1 analogs; and

(3) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. (new): A method of treating one or more diseases selected from the group consisting of (1) type 2 diabetes, (2) hyperglycemia, (3) low glucose tolerance, (4) insulin resistance, (5) obesity, (6) lipid disorders, (7) dyslipidemia, (8) hyperlipidemia, (9) hypertriglyceridemia, (10) hypercholesterolemia, (11) low HDL levels, (12) high LDL levels, (13) atherosclerosis and its sequelae, (14) vascular restenosis, (15) irritable bowel syndrome, (16) inflammatory bowel disease, (17) other inflammatory conditions, (18) pancreatitis, (19) abdominal obesity, (20) neurodegenerative disease, (21) retinopathy, (22) psoriasis, (23) metabolic syndrome, and (24) ovarian hyperandrogenism, in a patient in need of treatment which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. (new): A method of treating type 2 diabetes in a patient in need of treatment which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.